

At a meeting of the COALFIELD AREA COMMITTEE held in the THE HETTON CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on WEDNESDAY, 16TH JUNE, 2010 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor D. Richardson in the Chair

Councillors F. Anderson, Blackburn, Ellis, A. Hall, Heron, Richardson and Rolph

Also Present:-

Ron Barrass	Member of the Public
Kath Butchert	Youth Development Group Manager, Sunderland City Council
Louise Butler	Neighbourhood Relations Team Leader, Sunderland City Council
Graham Carr	Highways Maintenance Manager, Sunderland City Council
John Chapman	Head of Neighbourhoods, Gentoo
Leanne Davis	Drug and Alcohol Strategy Manager, Sunderland City Council
Steve Dodds	District Bus Manager, Nexus
Jan Elstob	PA to Head of Positive Contribution & Economic Wellbeing
Graham Finlay	Inspector, Northumbria Police
John Ford	People and Communities Manager, Gentoo Living
Victoria French	Wellness Manager, Sunderland Council
Gillian Gibson	Public Health Specialist, Sunderland TPCT
Julie Heathcote	Corporate Communications Officer, Sunderland City Council
Juliana Heron	Councillor, Hetton Town Council
Emma Hindmarsh	Democratic Services Officer, Sunderland Council
Pauline Hopper	Area Officer, Sunderland City Council
Sandra Kenny	Family Adult and Community Learning Manager, Sunderland City Council
Amelia Laverick	Member of the Public
Jill Laverick	Corporate Communications Officer, Sunderland City Council
Dave Leonard	Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
Julie McCann	Resources and Performance Manager, Sunderland City Council
Andrew Perkin	Senior Partnership and Policy Officer, Sunderland City Council
Mike Poulter	Head of Project & Service Development, Sunderland City Council
Karon Purvis	Area Officer, Sunderland City Council
Neil Revely	Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services, Sunderland City Council
Ian Richardson	Operations Manager, Sunderland City Council
Judith Quinn	Deputy Head of Sixth Form, City of Sunderland College
John Rostron	Area Community Manager, Sunderland City Council
Vince Taylor	Head of Strategic Economic Development, Sunderland City Council
Lee Wardle	VCS Network Representative
Jeff Wilkinson	Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Station Manager

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors J. Scott and Speding

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on , 2010

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held 2010 be confirmed and signed as a correct record,

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

Coalfield: Establishing a New Work Plan 2010-11

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided the Committee with background information and a series of recommendations to assist Members in establishing a Coalfield Area Committee Work Programme for 2010-11.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Neil Revely, Area Lead Executive and Vince Taylor, Head of Strategic Economic Development, introduced the item with brief presentations outlining the workshop approach that the meeting would adopt, to assist Members in undertaking the following tasks:-

- i) to agree a maximum of six priorities to include Responsive Local Services, to form the basis of the 2010/11 Work Plan (Members were asked to agree to focus the efforts of the Committee on the Local Area Plan priorities where they believed it could make a real difference);
- ii) identify and agree a Lead Agent for each priority action;
- iii) agree to establish a 'Local Task and Finish' group per priority action, where relevant, to include elected Members and partners, to support the Lead Agent in delivering against the priority;
- iv) agree to receive regular updates on progress in implementing all the priorities identified in the Committee Local Area Plan.

In order to facilitate debate, the Chairman split Members into two groups. Both groups then discussed each of the following 14 potential options, assisted by lead officers for each topic, with a view to determining their priorities:-

- Provide Family, Adult and Community Learning (FACL) appropriate to the needs of the Coalfield Area Residents
- Tackle Health Inequalities;
- Deliver Responsive Local Services;
- Develop a Bulb Planting and Soft Landscaping Project;
- Improve Allotments Sites;
- Promote and Celebrate Heritage;
- Improve Local Shopping Centres;
- Increase enterprise and entrepreneurship;
- Improve Play Provision;
- Reduce Antisocial Behaviour;
- Increase Locally Delivered Drugs Education and Support and Increase Take up of Treatment Services;
- Explore Opportunities to Improve Unadopted Roads;
- Increase Community Engagement;
- Reduce Child Poverty.

Following the workshop sessions, Members were asked to vote for their priorities by placing stickers next to their favoured options on the display boards provided.

The votes cast were as follows:-

• Family, Adult and Community Learning	6
• Health Inequalities	6
• Bulb planting and landscaping	12
• Allotment Sites	5
• Heritage	12
• Local Shopping Centres	12
• Enterprise and Entrepreneurship	2
• Play Provision	11
• Anti Social Behaviour	6
• Drugs Education and Support	5
• Unadopted Roads	11
• Child Poverty	12

Accordingly the Committee agreed that the following priorities would join Responsive Local Services in forming the basis of its Work Plan for 2010/11. Members also agreed the approach to be used in each of the seven categories:

- Child Poverty – In-depth look at issue in Coalfields, to be a regular item with Task and Result Groups to be convened if deemed appropriate
- Heritage – Task and Result Group to feed into the City Wide Scrutiny Review
- Bulb planting and landscaping – Instigate a short focused piece of work
- Local Shopping Centres – Task and Result Group
- Play Provision – regular committee item
- Unadopted Roads – regular committee item

With regard to the appointment of Lead Officers for each priority, it was agreed that officers should request Executive Directors to nominate appropriate officers.

With regard to the membership of the Task and Finish Groups for each of the seven priorities, it was agreed that any expressions of interest should be submitted to Ms. Hopper.

Accordingly it was:-

2. RESOLVED that:-

- i) the following priorities be approved to join Responsive Local Services in forming the basis of coalfield Area Committee's Work Plan for 2010/11:
 - Child Poverty
 - Heritage
 - Bulb planting and landscaping
 - Local Shopping Centres
 - Play Provision
 - Unadopted Roads
- ii) The approach above in each of the seven chosen priority categories be selected to assist in the delivery of that priority;
- iii) expressions of interest with regard to the membership of the Task and Finish Groups be submitted to Pauline Hopper, Area Officer;

- iv) Executive Directors be requested to nominate an appropriate Lead Officer for each of the seven priorities;
- v) regular updates on progress in implementing the Work Plan priorities be submitted in due course.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

3. RESOLVED that it be noted that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 14 July, 2010 at 6.00 p.m.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to the meeting.

(Signed) D. Richardson,
(Chairman).